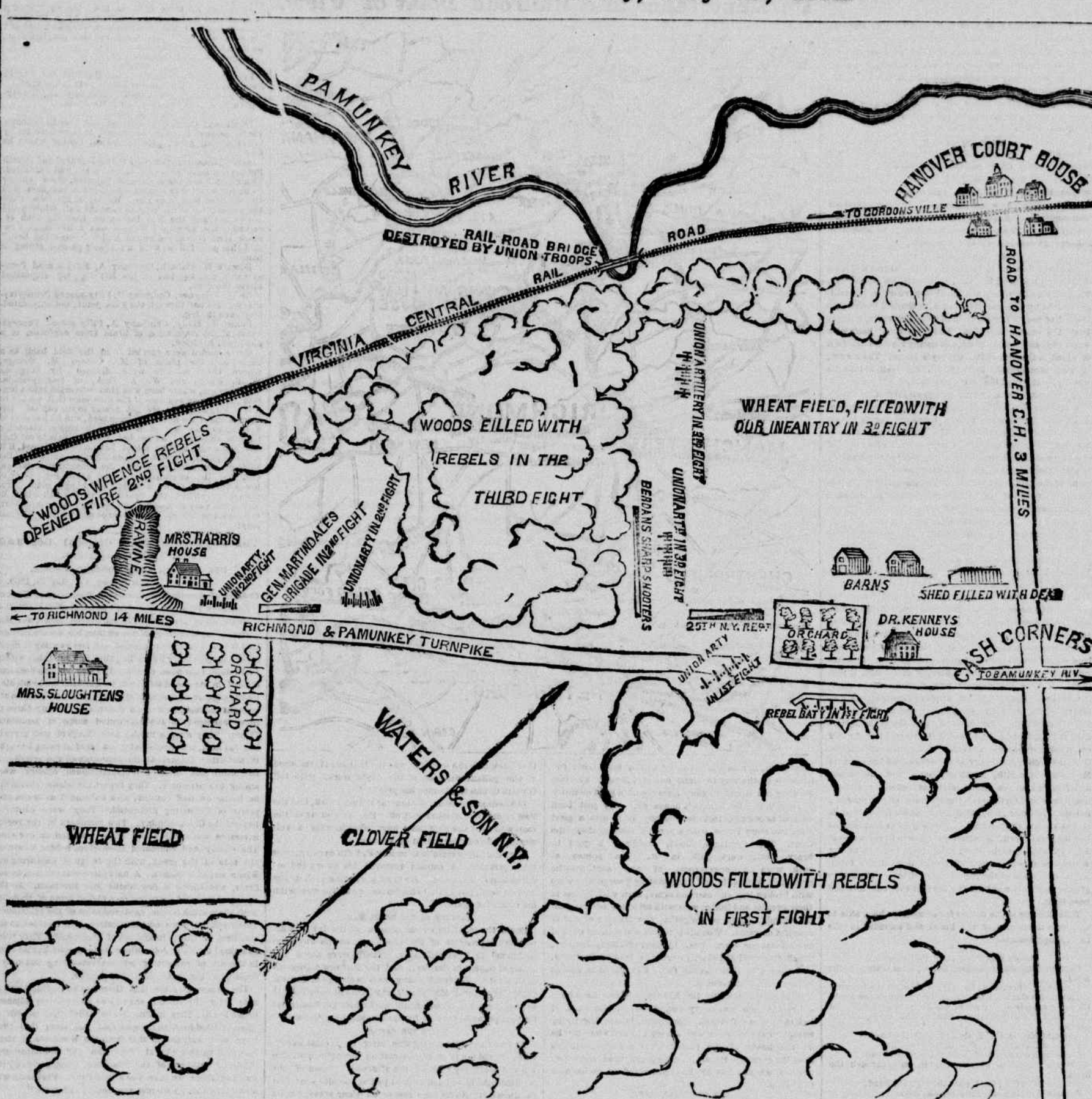


# THE BRILLIANT AFFAIR AT HANOVER COURT HOUSE.

The Battle Field of Tuesday, May 27, 1862.



## THE BATTLE AT HANOVER COURT HOUSE.

Three Fights in One Day, and a Victory Each Time.

The Virginia Central Railroad Tapped and Part of the Track Destroyed.

A Rebel Train Stopped and Turned Back.

An Important Rebel Mail Captured and Sent to Gen. McClellan.

The Rebels from Fifteen to Twenty Thousand Strong.

CAPTURE OF MRS. GENERAL LEE.

THE KILLED AND WOUNDED.

INCIDENTS OF THE FIGHT.

&c., &c., &c.

Our Special Army Correspondence.

ON THE FIELD, THREE MILES FROM HANOVER COURT HOUSE, MAY 27, 1862.

It has been a busy day with some of the troops under General Fitz John Porter, and one of hard work and hard fighting. Three fights with the enemy, three times more than were killed and wounded on our side, and capturing three times as many prisoners, is the day's work and victory epitomized. General Fitz John Porter's troops have shown the stuff they are made of, and have added lustre to the fame they have won in front of Yorktown, and have covered themselves with additional glory. As I essay tonight to write out the day's doings, it is in the midst of the confusion and horrors that always attend the close of a day's battle. Bodies of the dead lie about me, and the groans of the wounded fill the air, and it is impossible to get all the names of the sufferers. Division and brigade commanders have no headquarters as yet, and the regimental rolls have not been called, which would enable me to obtain a complete record of the killed, wounded and missing. In the hurry of sending away my despatch, and the report of losses not having been made, I am compelled, therefore, to transmit it only as far as I have been able to make it up from inquiries through most of the regiments known to have suffered and visits to the various hospitals. I think, however, my list is very nearly complete. Our loss in the three engagements, it is estimated, will not exceed, killed, wounded and missing, one hundred and thirty, while that of the enemy cannot fall short of three hundred. The rebels probably captured about thirty of our men, and we have taken nearly three hundred of theirs.

THE PRELIMINARY MARCH.

At four o'clock A. M. the regiments were up. An hour later they had eaten their breakfast, packed their haversacks, looked to see that their guns and cartridges were all right and were moving. The cavalry, artillery and ambulances moved in their allotted places in the line of march. None knew where they were going, and none cared to ask. The nature of the general orders looked like fight, and this compensated for every doubt.

THE TROOPS EXPECT TO GO TO RICHMOND.

The greater part of the troops thought, however, we were going to Richmond, and looked forward to luxuriating on soft bread and soft beds in the rebel capital. As we increased in the progress of the march so did the distance between our column and Richmond; for instead of making nearer approach to it, the fact became apparent that some outside job had been cut out for us to do by our Commanding General. This piece of outside work was not slow in revealing itself. It had been set apart that our Commanding General was to cut off the rebel connection between Richmond and Fredericksburg, and to do what they could to diminish and destroy the utility of a large body of the enemy known to be encamped in the vicinity of Hanover Court House.

GENERAL McCLELLAN'S CONTINUING IN THE CONFLUENCE.

How this fact became known to our Commanding General it is not for me to state. I can only say this much: that General McClellan knew the capability of this corps to give the enemy trouble. He looked for brilliant deeds on the field by his troops, and he knew he would not be disappointed, and he was not.

THE RAIN—THE ROADS.

During the preliminary march I should state that if it ever did rain great guns, it rained those war missiles with unprecedented copiousness at the outset of our march, and for nearly three hours afterwards. It had rained moreover all night. The state of the roads may be imagined. The quicksand, indications to all Virginia roads, became deep, and the mud became deep, and the depth became disgusting. But our boys minded neither the rain, nor the mud, nor its depth.

THE ROUTE OF MARCH.

Leaving camp, we went on the New Bridge road, leading from Coal Harbor, a short distance, and thence took the Hanover turnpike. The country is such as we have seen in our recent marches here and there large plantations well lighted, large and well shaded houses for the proprietors, floors for the slaves, and white flags invoking protection, floating hopefully in the breeze. Dwellings of stunted dimensions and meagre appointments, the habitations of poor white families, were of course scattered at intervals. As usual on all marches, the provost guard stationed guards at each town.

THE CAVALRY TAKE THE LEAD.

Foremost in the column was a squadron of the Sixth regular cavalry, under command of Major Williams—two companies advanced as skirmishers. They were followed by a regiment of infantry, who also acted as skirmishers, plugging right and left into the bushes, and keeping a keen eye ahead lest some rebels might suddenly start up from behind some earthwork, or tree, or log, or stone. The batteries and brigades came next.

RECONNOITERING MOUNTED PICKETS.

At McKinley's Cross Roads, about six miles this side of Hanover Court House, mounted pickets of the cavalry were seen. On observing our men they fired several shots, and then put up to their horses. One of the shots, and then put up to their horses. One of the shots, and then put up to their horses. One of the shots, and then put up to their horses.

THE WAR IN THE SOUTHWEST.

St. Louis, Mo., May 29, 1862.

The Cairo special despatch says trouble is breaking out in Western Tennessee, and a considerable force of rebels is said to be at Frankton, ready to march on Union City and Hickman. Union people from Weekly and Ohio counties are looking to Hickman for protection.

Four or five hundred rebel cavalry are stationed near the mouth of Ohio river, awaiting the training of the swamp in that region to plant a battery to prevent the passage of our transports on the Mississippi.

A parolee prisoner from New Orleans on the 19th says that Gen. Lovell's forces were still at Camp Moore, Jackson, Mississippi.

Cairo, May 29, 1862.

The steamer Marie Denning went to Columbus today to remove the chains, ordnance and stores captured from the rebels when that place was evacuated. The value of the property is estimated at \$100,000.

General Strong has issued an order that hereafter all persons will be required to procure from the Provost Marshal a permit before leaving Cairo by steam or railroad. A violation of the order will subject the offender to arrest.

Explosion of a Powder Mill.

St. Louis, Mo., May 29, 1862.

W. H. Cook's powder mill, at Beaver Head, Pa., blew up this morning at about two o'clock. Cause unknown. Loss about \$7,000. No one was injured.

## IMPORTANT FROM CORINTH.

Opening of the Contest by Gen. Halleck's Army.

The Rebels Driven from Their Position with Considerable Loss.

The Old Flag Hoisted on One of the Rebel Batteries.

BEFORE CORINTH, MAY 25, 1862.

Three strong reconnoitering columns advanced this morning from General Thomas on the right, General Buell on the centre and Pope on the left, for the purpose of feeling the enemy and unmasking his batteries.

The enemy contested his ground hotly at each point, but was driven back with considerable loss.

General Pope's column encountered the strongest opposition, where we lost twenty-five killed and wounded. The enemy left thirty dead on the field. We captured several officers and privates.

Although the enemy disputed the passage of the creek bridge sharply, we held possession on the southern side. In some instances our advanced line of skirmishers are within gunshot of the enemy's intrenchments.

Indeed, so near are we that prominent officers believe the enemy will attack us at daylight to-morrow.

The affair is considered a decided success, in a military point of view, we having gained a very strong position right in the teeth of the enemy.

The officer killed at the battle of Farmington on the 9th instant, supposed to be General Price, was Colonel Ingraham, of Van Dorn's army.

Prisoners report the arrival of General Lovell's army at Corinth last night.

Contrary to expectation the rebels did not open on us this morning, but General Pope opened fire on the rebel battery, which the rebels returned with twelve-pounders.

After an hour's shelling the rebels pulled down the flag over their battery, banded their guns back, and our forces at this hour occupy the position.

## LATEST FROM FORT WRIGHT.

Continuation of the Fire of Our Gunboats—The Rebels Still Make a Show of Resistance, &c.

Cairo, May 29, 1862.

A special despatch from Cairo says that a brisk bombardment from two of our mortar boats was opened upon the rebel works yesterday afternoon, and continued without cessation until six o'clock in the evening.

The fire was directed to the land works and to the position occupied by the rebel fleet.

The rebels returned the fire irregularly, but doing no damage.

The Exhumation of the Bodies of Soldiers.

Yorktown, Va., May 25, 1862.

The following order has been issued in reference to the disinterment of the bodies of deceased soldiers:

To Major Jones, Provost Marshal:

The General commanding directs me to advise you that he has issued an order forbidding the further exhuming of bodies by the friends of those killed at Williamsburg. Very respectfully, your obedient servant, CHARLES E. PRASE, Lieutenant and Aid-de-Camp.

## THE UNION MANIFESTATIONS IN TENNESSEE.

Union Meeting at Shelbyville—The True Tennesseans Making Themselves Heard, &c., &c.

SHREVEPORT, MAY 29, 1862.

A Union meeting was held in the grove near this place to-day, which was largely attended, notwithstanding that the enemy, two thousand strong, is reported to be within ten miles. They are said to be commanded by General Adams, and threatened to break up the meeting.

The speakers at the meeting boldly proclaimed in favor of a maintenance of the Union.

There was a large number of ladies present. Speeches were made by prominent Tennessee gentlemen.

Persons from Winchester report that there are eleven hundred rebel cavalry in this vicinity. Stearns' force is said to be completely demoralized.

## NEWS FROM THE MOUNTAIN DEPARTMENT.

General Fremont's Column on the March.

[From the Wheeling Intelligencer, May 28.]

One of our editorial corps returned last evening from Franklin, Tennessee, eighty miles south of New Creek, which was, up to Sunday last, the headquarters of Gen. Fremont. It is distant twenty-four miles from Monterey, and sixty-five from Staunton, and is on the same line of latitude with New Market. Gen. Banks' former headquarters in the adjoining valley. It is a place hard of access from New Creek, by reason of two rivers intervening, and also on account of the miserable condition of the last twenty miles of the road along the mountains that skirt the South branch. It was to this place that General Milroy and Schenck fell back after the battle of McMillan, and to which Gen. Fremont came on a forced march from Petersburg, thirty miles this side. The place itself is a miserable, squallid village of old huts, some of which were built by the rebels, and are being strongly defended with a comparatively small force.

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large portion of the coast of the cotton-growing States, in occupying the heaviest exporting mart, and is heretofore selling heavily all the others by a rigorous blockade. What will be the consequences of a blockade of affairs almost entirely unopposed by the South, but perhaps secretly hoped for by some of the governments of Europe? Will the capture of New Orleans have the effect as predicted by the Paris Convention, of re-establishing the export trade of cotton, and bringing back to the deserted shores of these the raw material so essential to the maintenance of the vast manufacturing industry of that city? This will be to move another error, and will be acknowledged when the nation of Europe learns what has been done in those cotton ports where the army of the United States have obtained a foothold. Unable to cope with that power upon the domain of the ocean, the South seems to have adopted a policy respecting which we are not permitted to express an opinion, but which a few weeks ago was most actively and warmly supported by the Northern press. Now, however, the various conventions of Southern planters. We attribute to the destruction of cotton. Whether right or wrong, it is a fact, and one of undoubted magnitude with regard to the interests of Europe.

It appears likely from the language of the European journals, and from the attitude of strict non-intervention assumed by their governments, that they placed little faith in the declarations of the policy of the South. Unfortunately for transatlantic manufacturers, that policy has been carried into effect. In New Orleans thirteen thousand bales of cotton were consigned to the flames, and throughout the interior of the State and in Mississippi we understand that immense quantities of the staple have been destroyed by the same agency. Suppose, thus far, half a million of bales to have been burned, where will the work of destruction pause? We can form no definite idea on the subject. Wherever the federal arms have not penetrated it may be presumed that the cotton will be preserved; but even admitting the possibility of saving one-half or two-thirds of the crop of 1862, Europe is unlikely to reap the slightest benefit from this, as the Southern ports not captured will doubtless be more closely blockaded than ever.

While awaiting the distant and doubtful prospect of peace, Europe will be compelled to hear of the progressive diminution in the stock of that valuable staple which gives life to her industry and bread to her countless millions. Nor will the prospect for the coming year be all favorable. It is admitted on all sides that the crop of 1862 will not be one-third of the previous year. The planters as a general rule have appreciated the strategic necessity of securing food to the people of the South, and have devoted to the cultivation of the cereals millions of acres previously employed in the raising of cotton. The next crop may reach one million or one million and a half of bales, but we greatly doubt whether any of it will find its way beyond the limits of the South. Europe has a lesson of patience to learn, and the Southern planters will have many painful privations to encounter.

The above article the evening *Delta* of the 16th copied, and made the following comment:—

The *Delta* shows the short-sightedness of Europeans in expecting a supply of cotton from the occupation of New Orleans ports by the United States forces, and supposes that at least 500,000 bales will be destroyed, and that the remainder will be blockaded, so that it will never get abroad.

Miscellaneous News.

RECRUITING FOR "LINCOLN RIFLEMEN" IN THE CITY.

[From the New Orleans Picayune, May 17.]

UNITED STATES ARMY—RECRUITING.—A few able bodied men are wanted to fill out the various regiments of the United States Army, in this Military Department, to the maximum standard. Pay, \$13 per month, clothing and rations, and a bonus of one hundred dollars at the end of the war. Union men, forward, right into line—march! Several applications having been made by persons loyal to the United States government, for leave to raise a regiment for its service, notice is hereby given that the written proposals of such persons will be and will be received at the general recruiting office and considered. Office, 105 St. Charles street, New Orleans.

LOUIS A. SALOMON, Recruiting Officer.

GENERAL BUTLER STAYS AT THE AUTHORITIES' RESIDENCE.

GARDING THE SANITARY CONDITION OF THE CITY.

[From the New Orleans Bulletin, May 30, 1862.]

MAJORITY OF NEW ORLEANS, CITY HALL, May 13, 1862.

TO THE COMMON COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN—I have the honor to transmit a copy of a letter which was received from the United States Commanding General, on the 9th instant, together with a copy of my reply to the same, that your honorable body may take such action upon the same as in your judgment may appear to be advisable. Respectfully,

JOHN T. MONROE, Mayor.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, New Orleans, May 9, 1862.

TO THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS.

MEMORANDUM—I desire to call your attention to the sanitary condition of your streets. Having assumed by the choice of your fellow citizens and the permission of the United States authorities, the care of the city of New Orleans in this behalf, that trust must be faithfully executed. Resolutions and action will not do. Active, energetic measures, fully and promptly executed, are imperatively demanded by the exigencies of the occasion.

The present suspension of labor furnishes ample supplies of hungry men, who can be profitably employed to this end. A tithe of the labor and effort spent upon the streets and public squares, which was uselessly and expensively wasted upon idle fortifications like that about the United States Mint, will place the city in a condition to insure the health of its inhabitants.

It will not do to shift the responsibility for murders in the streets from the contractor, and through all the grades of civil disobedience and neglect of duty.

Three days since I called the attention of Mr. Mayor to this subject, and nothing has been done.

Respectfully,

JOHN T. MONROE, Mayor.

THE MAYOR AND OTHER CITY OFFICIALS SENT TO POINT TO BE SHOT.

[From the New Orleans Picayune, May 29.]

UNITED STATES ARMY—RECRUITING.—We learn that in this court, on Saturday, Abraham McLean, Daniel Doyle, Edward G. Smith, Patrick Kane, George L. Williams and William Stanley, found guilty of desertion from the United States Army, and organizing a military company for service in the Confederate army, were sentenced to be shot, which sentence has been approved by General Butler.

JUDGE ROSE'S LETTER TO YANCEY—NO HOPE OF AID FOR THE REBELLION FROM EUROPE.

[From the New Orleans Bulletin, May 29.]

At the desire and request of Major General Butler, we insert the following letter in our columns:—

Hon. W. L. YANCEY, Richmond, Va., May 22, 1862.

MY DEAR SENATOR—Trusting that you have this reached the new field of your labors, I avail myself of the departure of the steamer *Albatross* to send you a few lines.

For some time past Mr. Silliman's arrival in Paris the weather was extremely cold, and my wife being in feeble health, I delayed my departure until the 18th inst., when I left for Bordeaux, at the request of Captain Huse, to see about getting some of his friends on board the steamer *Albatross*.

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